THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) The Government has been promoting the use of solar cookers for cooking applications and of photovoltaic devices for lighting applications both in urban and rural areas through various schemes of the Ministry. These schemes include promotional scheme on box solar cookers, demonstration scheme on concentrating type solar cookers, subsidy scheme for solar home systems, street lights and solar power plants* a soft loan scheme for photovoltaic systems and a specific scheme for village electrification. A total of around 5,30,500 box solar cookers, 566 concentrating cookers including 6 steam cooking systems, 2,35,162 solar home systems, 4,41,481 solar lanterns, 43,474 street lights and 4.14 MW capacity of power plants have been installed under these schemes till 31.03.2003. In addition, 800 census villages have been electrified through solar energy.

(b) About 45 private manufacturers are involved in manufacturing and sale of solar cookers. In addition, over 50 private sector companies are involved in manufacturing of solar photovoltaic devices including solar lanterns.

(c) and (d) To promote the use of wind power for lighting and other applications, the Government has been providing the following incentives:

1. Small Aero-generators & Hybrid systems-Central financial assistance in the range of 50 to 75% of the ex-works cost of the systems subject to a maximum of Rs. 2.00 lakhs/kw depending on the category of the user.

2..Wind power projects-Soft loans from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) for establishment of commercial projects. In addition, fiscal and financial incentives are available from the government to the developers of wind power projects.

National Project for Improved Chullahs (NPIC) in Uttaranchal

4274. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the budget allocation for the National Project for Improved Chullahs (NPIC) for Uttaranchal from its inception todate;

(b) the amount utilised during this period;

(c) the nodal agency which is monitoring the working of the project; and

(d) the steps taken/to be taken to ensure implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) After its creation, the State of Uttaranchal received Rs. 5.55 lakh through the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for the year 2000-01 and has been released a total sum of Rs. 1.39 lakh for the years 2001-02 and 2002-03 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme - National Programme on Improved Chulhas (NPIC).

(b) The State reported to have utilized a total sum of Rs. 6.55 lakh only during this period.

(c) The nodal organization for monitoring the programme in the State is the Office of Commissioner, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Pauri. Besides, the Ministry's Regional Office, Lucknow is involved.

(d) The steps taken for implementing the programme include : organisation of users' courses in villages for awareness raising; promo tion of portable metallic chulhas; and publicity; besides providing Central subsidy and other financial incentives.

Expanding use of non-conventional energy in A.P.

4275. SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received from Andhra Pradesh NGOs to offer to hold exhibitions highlighting the uses of non-conventional energy and various equipments in 2001 -2002 and 2002-2003;

(b) the response of Governments to such requests:

(c) whether any system has been put in place to help such interest: and

(d) the details of action taken by Government to expand use of non-conventional energy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) to (c) The